GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:467
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
EXPORT OF TEXTILES
NAWAL KISHORE RAI;RAMJI LAL SUMAN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of textiles to several countries of the world is still determined on the basis of prescribed quota by importing countries;

(b) if so, the names of those countries;

(c) whether those countries are not the members of the World Trade Organisation;

(d) if so, the extent to which such restrictions in trade are justified in the present open market system;

(e) whether this matter has been taken up with the World Trade Organisation to remove these restrictions; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.467 for answer on 21-12-2000.

(a) to (f) Till December 31, 1994, the exports of textiles to certain developed countries (e.g. US; member countries of EU; Canada) had been governed by bilateral textile Agreements entered into between India and these countries under the aegis of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA), outside the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).With effect from January 1, 1995, the quantitative restrictions (import quotas) in the bilateral agreements under the MFA, are being governed by the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) contained in the Final Act of the Uruguay Round negotiations of the GATT.Presently, our textiles and clothing items face restraints in certain WTO member countries i.e. USA, European Union and CanadaAs per ATC, these quotas would be phased out and textile sector fully integrated into WTO by 1st January 2005.